

News from the FPPC



California Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 620, Sacramento, CA 95814
www.fppc.ca.gov

For Immediate Release: November 3, 2008 Contact: Roman Porter at (916) 322-7761

Independent Expenditure Spending in the November Election Tops \$10 Million

Special interests have spent more than \$10 million on "independent expenditures" in a handful of legislative races in the November general election, according to the California Fair Political Practices Commission. Combined with the nearly \$12 million spent in the June primary election, the total amount of "independent expenditure" spending for the year is nearly \$22 million.

"Since contribution limits for state candidates took effect in 2001, 'independent expenditure' spending has skyrocketed to \$110 million," commented Ross Johnson, Chairman of the Fair Political Practices Commission. "Special interests have spent more than \$1 million in each of nine legislative races this year."

Those contests where IE spending has exceeded \$1 million in the November general election are:

- The 19th Senate District in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties (\$2,319,622).
- The 15th Assembly District in Contra Costa County (\$1,781,233).
- The 78th Assembly District in San Diego County (\$1,764,046).
- The 80th Assembly District in Riverside County (\$1,526,785).
- The 10th Assembly District in Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties (\$1,413,451).
- The 30th Assembly District in the Central Valley (\$1,228,541).

The top "independent expenditure" spenders in the general election are:

- Opportunity PAC, which is funded by labor unions, \$1,776,885.
- Californians for Jobs and Education, which is primarily funded by the California Chamber of Commerce, \$1,443,028.
- The California Alliance, a coalition of attorneys, conservationists and nurses, \$908,564.
- The California Dental Association \$893,023
- Committee for Working Families, which is funded by labor unions, \$617,617

The FPPC provides daily tracking of "independent expenditures" on its website: www.fppc.ca.gov.

#